To the Commission, and all affiliated with the Commission,

I respectfully submit this filing in the interest of expressing my support for retaining the provisions made for the Amateur Radio Service in Part 97 of the CFR.

The Amateur Radio Service is inarguably a function of regulation that extracts an amount of money and time from FCC operations. In 2022, MD Docket No. 20-270 announced the addition of application fees for the Wireless Telecommunications Bureau, the Chairman and Commissioners noted that while “applications in these services are highly automated”, there are “limited instances where staff input is required”.

I write to the Commission today because I fear that the value of the Amateur Radio Service to the country, to telecommunications and associated industries, and to students nationwide, may not be able to be quantifiably understood through a purely operational lens. Subsequently, I foresee a possibility that the Service could be perniciously eliminated in pursuit of operational efficiency.

The Amateur Radio Service provides to United States citizens a tool that exists in no other context to understand communications technology. Communications technology touches every aspect of modern life. Within industry, the telecommunications industry lacks the necessary radio frequency and signal processing engineers and researchers to fully address new technologies and efforts. Telecommunications itself has numerous connections to similarly impactful fields, including emergency response, space, defense, and energy.

Just over 3 years ago, I chose to pursue an undergraduate degree in electrical engineering because I grew up fascinated by the Space Shuttle, the ISS, satellite communications, the internet, and cell phones. I discovered amateur radio on accident, and ultimately got licensed in high school. When I enrolled in college, I quickly grew to realize that I had a distinct advantage over my peers that were similarly interested in these subjects. I had an intuitive, and tangible sense for complex concepts being introduced in our courses. This early exposure and the passion it created directly led me to internships and subsequently my dream job opportunity in satcom. I will graduate this spring.

This story isn’t unique to me. At my institution, I have so many peers invested in amateur radio as a platform for meaningful learning, experimentation, and inspiration. The impact goes beyond electrical engineers, too: aspiring scientists, mechanical engineers, civil engineers, and designers at my institution have all found amateur radio

to be beneficial in their lives and educations. It is no exaggeration to say that if the Amateur Radio Service did not exist, I, and many of my peers, would not be conscious of, much less contributing to, these high-tech fields in the US.

Once again, I humbly request to the Commission that the Commission **retains** the Amateur Radio Service. I thank the Commission for their commitment to the Service and for the positive impact the Service has had on my life.

Elizabeth G Ziemer